

# CHINA

THE

# MAIL.

Established February, 1843,

With which is incorporated The "Hongkong Evening Mail and Shipping List." Published every Evening.

VOL. XXXV. No. 4992. 號八月七九年九百八十一英

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, JULY 8, 1879.

日九月五年卯己

PRICE, \$24 PER ANNUM.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON:—F. ALGAR, 8, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street, GEORGE STREET & Co., 30, Cornhill, GORDON & GOOK, Ludgate Circus, E. C. BATES, HENDY & Co., 4, Old Jewry, E.C. SAMUEL DRAGON & Co., 160 & 164, Leadenhall Street.

PARIS AND EUROPE:—LEON DE BOISY, 18, Rue Monseur, Paris.

NEW YORK:—ANDREW WIND, 133, Nassau Street.

AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND:—GORDON & GOTCH, Melbourne and Sydney.

SAN FRANCISCO and American Ports generally:—BROWN & BLACK, San Francisco.

SINGAPORE AND STRAITS:—SAYLE & Co., Square, Singapore. C. HEINZEN & Co., Manila.

CHINA:—Macao, MESSRS A. A. DE MELLO & Co., SWATOW, CAMPBELL & CO., AMoy, WILSON, NICHOLLS & CO., Kowloon, HEDGES & CO., Shanghai, LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., and KELLY & WALSH, Yokohama, LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

BANKS.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, 5,000,000 Dollars. RESERVE FUND, 1,300,000 Dollars.

COURT OF DIRECTORS.  
Chairman—W. H. FORBES, Esq.  
Deputy Chairman—Hon. W. KESWICK,  
E. R. BRILLIUS, Esq. WILHELM REINERS,  
H. L. DAILEYMPLE, Esq.  
H. HOPPIUS, Esq. F. D. SASHOON, Esq.  
A. MCIVIER, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER.  
Hongkong, THOMAS JACKSON, Esq.  
MANAGER.  
Shanghai, EWEN CAMERON, Esq.  
LONDON BANKERS.—London and County Bank.

HONGKONG.  
INTEREST ALLOWED.

ON Current Deposit Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

For Fixed Deposits:—  
For 3 months, 3 per cent. per annum.  
" 6 " 4 per cent. "  
" 12 " 5 per cent. "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts, granted on London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON,  
Chief Manager.  
Offices of the Corporation,  
No. 1, Queen's Road East.  
Hongkong, February 15, 1879.

NOTICE.

ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION.

THE AGENCY of this BANK at Foo-chow will be CLOSED and WITHDRAWN from 1st July next.

Current Deposit Accounts and Fixed Deposit Receipts will be PAID THEREAT ONCE with INTEREST to Date, or transferred to this Branch at the Exchange of the Day at the option of Constituents.

GEO. O. SCOTT,  
p. Manager.  
Oriental Bank Corporation,  
Hongkong, May 28, 1879.

COMPTOIR D'ESCOMpte DE PARIS.

(Incorporated 7th & 18th March, 1848.)

RECOGNISED by the INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION of 20th April, 1862.

CAPITAL FULLY PAID-UP, £3,200,000. RESERVE FUND, £800,000.

HEAD OFFICE—14, RUE BERGERE,  
PARIS.

AGENCIES and BRANCHES at:  
LONDON, BOURBON, SAN FRANCISCO,  
MARSEILLE, BOMBAY, HONGKONG,  
LYON, CALCUTTA, HANKOW,  
NANTES, SHANGHAI, FUZHOU.

LONDON BANKERS:  
THE BANK OF ENGLAND,  
THE UNION BANK OF LONDON.

The Hongkong Agency receives Fixed Deposits on Terms to be ascertained on application, grants Drafts and Credits on all parts of the World, and transacts every description of Banking Exchange Business.

E. G. VUILLEMONT,  
Manager, Shanghai,  
Hongkong, May 20, 1879.

Banks.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LONDON & CHINA.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)

THE following Rates of Interest are allowed on FIXED DEPOSITS:—

For 12 months, 5 per cent. per annum.  
" 6 " 4 per cent. "  
" 3 " 2 per cent. "

H. H. NELSON,  
Manager.

Hongkong, May 31, 1879.

CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA.

CAPITAL, £800,000.  
RESERVE FUND, £150,000.

Bankers.

THE BANK OF ENGLAND.

THE CITY BANK.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND.

THE BANK'S BRANCH in Hongkong grants Drafts on London and the Chief Commercial places in Europe and the East; buys and receives for collection Bills of Exchange, and conducts all kinds of Banking and Exchange Business.

RATES OF INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS.

On CURRENT ACCOUNTS, 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS.

For 3 months, 3 per cent. per annum.  
" 6 " 4 per cent. "  
" 12 " 5 per cent. "

Notices of FIRMS.

NOTICE.

FROM the 1st JULY, 1879, our Business in Hongkong will be CONDUCTED under the Firm of Style of NORONHA & CO., and at Shanghai under that of NORONHA & SONS.

Ma. A. J. NORONHA is authorized to Sign our Firm in Hongkong per Procuration.

NORONHA & SONS.

Hongkong, July 4, 1879. jy18

Intimations.

BILLIARDS! BILLIARDS!

W. S. STANLEY, who is now in Hongkong, where he will remain about Two Weeks, will give Lessons in Billiards, and is open to give Private Entertainments. For Terms, apply at the HONGKONG HOTEL.

Hongkong, July 5, 1879. jy18

NOTIFICATION.

NOTICE is hereby given that a Section, about 64 miles, of the Company's GUTZLAFF NAGASAKI CABLE has been RE-LAID from the South to the North of the PARKER, SADDLES and BARREN ISLANDS in a curve from GUTZLAFF to the NORTH SADDLE, running along ELLIOT, CHESNEY and SIDE SADDLE, about ½ mile distant, and from the NORTH SADDLE Light, bearing South, 1 mile distant, in an E. by S. direction about 31 miles, passing the BARREN ISLANDS until these bear W. ¾ N. distance 6 miles, when the Cable is again spliced into the old Line running in a straight Line about E. N. E. till midway between PALLAS ROCK and MEASUMA (Access East) on the coast of Japan.

GEORGE J. HELLAND,  
General Agent.

GREAT NORTHERN TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

HEAD OFFICE, Shanghai, June 20, 1879. jy30

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned has established himself at the Premises formerly occupied by LAMMERT, ATKINSON & Co., Pedlar's Wharf, as AUCTIONEER, APPRAISER

AND COMMISSION AGENT.

All GOODS intrusted for SALE will be fully covered by FIRE INSURANCE.

G. R. LAMMERT.

Hongkong, July 1, 1879. jy18

NOTICE.

OUR OFFICE has TO-DAY been REMOVED to 6, Praya Central.

REISS & Co.

Hongkong, July 1, 1879. jy18

WANTED for the SAILOR'S HOME, A STEWARD. Apply to the Undersigned.

H. G. THOMSETT,  
Hon. Secretary.

Hongkong, July 4, 1879. jy18

NOTICE.

FROM the 1st OCTOBER, Dr EASTLACKE will receive his PATIENTS at his new DENTAL ROOMS, No. 63, Queen's Road Central, over the MEDICAL HALL.

MEYER & Co.

Hongkong, June 27, 1879. jy7

The Undersigned have been appointed SOLE AGENTS for Hongkong and China for the Sale of their LEAD by the MICHENICK Mining Society.

MEYER & Co.

Hongkong, June 27, 1879. jy7

Intimations.

## EX LATE ARRIVALS.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS, Latest Editions.

CAVENISH ON WHIST.

POLE'S THEORY OF WHIST.

WALKER'S CORRECT CARD.

BALBRIGGAN UNDERSHIRTS (A Novelty).

WIRE RAT TRAPS.

BULL'S EYE LANTERNS.

BATH SPONGES.

WHITE BRO'S PORTLAND CEMENT.

LAWN TENNIS BATS, BALLS and NETS.

LAWN BOWLS, QUOITS and OTHER GAMES.

Scotch Home-made JAMS and JELLIES.

PHOTOGRAPHIC ALBUMS.

ICE PITCHERS and PAILS.

AUTOMATON UMBRELLAS.

French BOOTS and SHOES.

English BOOTS and SHOES.

CHRISTY'S BLACK and DRAB HATS.

"YOU DIRTY BOY."

COPE'S GOLDEN CLOUD TOBACCO.

American GOLDEN LEAF TOBACCO.

Well-Seasoned CIGARS.

MEERSCHAUM PIPES and CIGAR TUBES.

POCKET-KNIVES.

QUININE.

CONSTABULARY REVOLVERS.

SPIRIT LEVELS.

New Style CHIT BOOKS.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

Hongkong, June 19, 1879.

NOTICE.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE Ordinary Half-yearly MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS will be Held at the HONGKONG HOTEL, on FRIDAY, the 26th Instant, at 3.30 o'clock p.m., for the purpose of Receiving a Report of the Directors, together with a Statement of Accounts, declaring a Dividend, and electing Directors and Auditor.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

LOUIS HAUSCHILD,  
Secretary.

Hongkong, July 4, 1879. jy18

NOTICE.

THE Transfer BOOKS of this Company will be CLOSED from the 11th to the 25th Instant.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

LOUIS HAUSCHILD LTD.,  
Secretary.

Hongkong, July 4, 1879. jy16

NOTICE.

THE Transfer BOOKS of this Company will be OPENED from the 26th to the 30th Instant.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

LOUIS HAUSCHILD LTD.,  
Secretary.

Hongkong, July 4, 1879. jy16

NOTIFICATION.

NOTICE is hereby given that a Section, about 64 miles, of the Company's GUTZLAFF NAGASAKI CABLE has been RE-LAID from the South to the North of the PARKER, SADDLES and BARREN ISLANDS in a curve from GUTZLAFF to the NORTH SADDLE, running along ELLIOT, CHESNEY and SIDE SADDLE, about ½ mile distant, and from the NORTH SADDLE Light, bearing South, 1 mile distant, in an E. by S. direction about 31 miles,

## Intimations.

## NOTICE.

## VICTORIA DISPENSARY.

THE Undersigned begs to inform his Friends and the Public generally that he has engaged the Services of a THOROUGHLY QUALIFIED EUROPEAN ASSISTANT, who will attend solely to the DISPENSING DEPARTMENT, hoping thereby to merit in a greater degree their Confidence and Patronage.

WM. CRUCKSHANK,  
Hongkong, June 26, 1879. jy26

## YANGTSZE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION.

## NOTICE.

IN accordance with the Articles of Agreement, the Directors have declared a DIVIDEND to POLICYHOLDERS for the FIFTEEN MONTHS ENDING 31st December 1878, of THIRTY-THREE PER CENT. ON THE NET PREMIA CONTRIBUTED, payable at our OFFICE on and after the 15th Instant.

POLICYHOLDERS are requested to send in particulars of their Contributions.

By Order of the Directors,  
RUSSELL & CO.,  
Agents.  
Hongkong, May 5, 1879.

## NOTICE.

THE Interest and Responsibility of the Undersigned in the Chinese Mail, 福字日报 (Wah Tsz Yat Po), CEASED from the 1st August, 1877.

CHUN AYIN.  
Hongkong, April 6, 1878.

## AUCTIONS.

## PUBLIC AUCTION.

TO BE SOLD by PUBLIC AUCTION, shortly, on a day to be hereafter named, unless previously disposed of by private contract,—

THE HONGKONG DISTILLERY, Situate at East Point, Hongkong, now in Complete Working Order, and Capable of Distilling upwards of 2,000 Gallons daily. The Property is of a most valuable nature, comprising THREE PIECES of GROUND close to the water, viz.:—Inland Lots Nos. 749, 781 and 782, with the Substantially Built DWELLING HOUSE and BUSINESS PREMISES, erected specially for the purpose only a few years since, together with the MACHINERY, ENGINES, STILLS, VATS, STOCK, and TRADE FURNITURE and FITTINGS.

For further Particulars, apply to Messrs SHARP, TOLLER, and JOHNSON, Solicitors, Supreme Court House, Hongkong.  
Hongkong, March 5, 1879.

## Notices to Consignees

## FROM LONDON AND SINGAPORE.

THE S. S. Glengyle having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods—with the exception of Opium—are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Undersigned, whence and/or from the Wharves or Boats delivery may be obtained.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before 1 o'clock To-day.

Cargo remaining undelivered after the 9th Instant will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.

Hongkong, July 2, 1879. jy9

## FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE S. S. Venice having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading to the Undersigned for countersignature, and to take immediate delivery of their Goods.

Cargo impeding the discharge will be at once landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.

Hongkong, July 4, 1879. jy11

## FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship Japan, T. S. GARDNER, Commander, having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading to the Undersigned for countersignature, and to take immediate delivery of their Goods.

Cargo impeding the discharge will be at once landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

D. SASSOON, SONS & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, July 7, 1879. jy14

## COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

## NOTICE TO CONSIGNNEES.

CONSIGNNEES of the following Cargo are requested to send in their Bills of Lading to the Undersigned for countersignature, and take immediate delivery. This Cargo has been landed and stored at their risk and expense.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Ex Yangtsze;

AME (in diamond) { Nos. 16/17, Or, 22s. T. J. .... Flannel, from London.

Ex Djennah.

L (in diamond) { 415/21, 7 sas. Merdise, B. .... Order from London.

T. J. { 27 pgs. Nuts, from Singapore.

G. de CHAMPEAUX,

Agent.

Hongkong, July 8, 1879. jy15

## To-day's Advertisements.

## Y. R.

## GARRISON THEATRE.

BY Kind Permission of HIS EXCELLENCY the MAJOR GENERAL, COMMANDING, and under Patronage of LIEUT.-COL. GEDDES and OFFICERS 27th INNISKILLINGS, the

INNNIS KILLING CHRISTY MINSTRELS beg to announce to the Garrison and the Public their intention of giving two

PERFORMANCES IN THE ABOVE THEATRE, ON

M O N D A Y

— AND —

T U E S D A Y,

the 14th and 15th JULY, 1879,

For the benefit of the Widows and Orphans

CAUSED BY THE CAPE WAR.

Programme.

COMIC SONGS,

CLOG DANCE,

CORNET SOLO,

COMIC DUET,

"THE ZULU WARRIORS,"

NEGRO FARCE

"O L D H U N K S."

To conclude each Evening with the PLANTATION WALK ROUND

"WHOSE DAT FOOT A BURNING."

By kind permission of Lieut.-Colonel GEDDES and Officers, a portion of the Band of 27th Inniskillings will attend.

Prices of Admission:

Front Seats ..... One Dollar.

Second do. ..... 50 Cents.

Third do. ..... 25 "

Tickets can be obtained at the OFFICERS' MESS, SERGEANTS' MESSES, CANTEENS, R.A., and 27th INNISKILLINGS, and at the DOOR on the Nights of Performance.

Doors Open at ..... 8.30 p.m.

To Commence at ..... 9.00 "

PUNKAHs will be kept in motion during the Performance.

"God save the Queen."

Hongkong, July 8, 1879. jy16

## NOTICE.

## COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

## PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCOIS.

The Company's Steamship

"TANAI,"

Command, DE LA MARQUE, will

be despatched for YOKOHAMA

TO-MORROW, the 9th Instant, at Noon.

G. de CHAMPEAUX,

Agent.

Hongkong, July 8, 1879. jy17

## NOTICE.

## COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

## PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCOIS.

The Company's Steamship

"AMAZONE,"

Command, LORMIER, will be

despatched for SHANGHAI

on THURSDAY, the 10th Inst., at 8 a.m.

G. de CHAMPEAUX,

Agent.

Hongkong, July 8, 1879. jy18

## NOTICE.

## COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

## PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCOIS.

The Company's Steamship

"AMAZONE,"

Command, LORMIER, will be

despatched for SHANGHAI

on THURSDAY, the 10th Inst., at Noon,

instead of date previously advertised.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO.,

Agents.

Hongkong, July 8, 1879. jy19

## NOTICE.

## AUSTRALASIAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

FOR PORT DARWIN, COOKTOWN,

SYDNEY & MELBOURNE,

Taking Cargo and Passengers for all Aus-

TRALASIAN and NEW ZEALAND Ports,

TASMANIA, NEW CALEDONIA & FIJI.

The Company's Steamship

"OCEAN,"

Captain WEBBER, will be

despatched as above on

THURSDAY, the 17th Instant, at 8 p.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

GEO. R. STEVENS & CO.

Hongkong, July 8, 1879. jy20

## NOTICE.

## COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

## S. S. AMAZONE.

NOTICE.

CONSIGNEES of the following Cargo

are requested to send in their Bills of

Lading to the Undersigned for counter-

signature, and take immediate delivery.

This Cargo has been landed and stored at

their risk and expense.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Ex Yangtsze;

AME (in diamond) { Nos. 16/17, Or, 22s. T. J. .... Flannel, from London.

Ex Djennah.

L (in diamond) { 415/21, 7 sas. Merdise, B. .... Order from London.

T. J. { 27 pgs. Nuts, from Singapore.

G. de CHAMPEAUX,

Agent.

Hongkong, July 8, 1879. jy21

## To-day's Advertisements.

## PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction, ON

THURSDAY,

the 10th July, 1879, at Noon, at the

Godown of Messrs OLIPHANT & CO.,

(On account of the concerned.)

58 Bales BOMBAY COTTON

YARN, 400 lbs. each.

Ex S. S. "Malva" from Bombay,

(More or less damaged by sea water.)

TERMS OF SALE.—Cash before delivery

in Mexican Dollars weighed at 7.17.

All Lots, with all faults and errors of

description, at Purchaser's risk on the fall

of the hammer.

At the Police Court to-day the majority of cases were not of public interest. The only one of importance was one in which a Japanese resident of Staunton Street was charged with a contravention of the Dangerous Goods Ordinance of 1867, in keeping a quantity of kerosene oil stored in his premises without having the same in glass, earthenware or metal bottles containing not more than one pint or pound. The charge was laid by Inspector Orley; the man had had some 3 gallons in a tin. A fine was imposed of \$15.

MISS CLARA STANLEY'S Opera Co. arrived here to-day by the *Kwang Tung*, and intend giving a short season here. They are to produce several new operas, one of which they will open with on an early date in the City Hall. Their farewell performances at Shanghai were very successful, and at Hankow and all the Coast ports they have had most appreciative audiences. The Company, which has been playing constantly, must have considerably improved, since the time they first arrived here on their way to the Far East; and no doubt they have a good chance of a successful though short season.

It is currently reported that the rebel Li Yang-tai has been defeated in an engagement by General Feng, and that the latter has been severely wounded in the shoulder by a sword thrust. The family of Li is also stated to have fallen into the General's hands. If the report is true, great dissatisfaction will be felt in the Province of Kwangtung, which is well known to favour the rebel's cause. It is not stated whether the Imperialists were assisted by the troops of Annam.

A NEW issue of "The Hongkong Postal Guide" has just been published, which for neatness, perspicuity and completeness could not be excelled. As many people are not aware that such a thing is to be had here, we feel justified in devoting a short paragraph to calling attention to it. If people would only read it, it would save innumerable enquiries, letters, and misunderstandings; and, the price being only 25 cents, there is no reason why any office or individual should be without a copy. No fewer than 167 paragraphs are compiled so as to put most fully and plainly the rules of the post office on every conceivable question. It is very well got up by the Government Printer, and must prove an extremely useful adjunct to every deak, public or private. We call particular attention to the following rules, which everybody might fairly be expected, we think, to devote themselves to, and carry out:

DISTRIBUTE your correspondence as evenly as possible between the two mails (English and French). The practice of posting by the English mail only perpetuates inconveniences to the public which might otherwise be got rid of.

Post all correspondence as early as possible; and if there is much of it, do not keep all for the last moment, but send off as much as can be got ready, and keep back only what must be kept back.

Do not attempt, when one contract mail is closing, to post or register correspondence for the next.

Send circulars, newspapers, or prices current, to the post with the addresses all one way, right way up, and as far as possible divided into lots for the different routes, i.e., all those for the United Kingdom together, for the Continent, for Asiatic ports, &c. Do not mix up letters and printed matter in one confus'd mass.

Do not post masses of circulars, for different steamers, all mixed up together.

Do not put off the purchase of stamps till mail day. As a general rule, they might just as well be purchased some days before.

Do not send coins with money at the last moment, expecting the Post Office to see that they stamp correspondence properly, and to return a memo. of the change.

The following paragraph from a Melbourne journal may be of interest to the many here connected with one or other of our local fire brigades:

The fire brigades' demonstration commenced on the 27th, at Beechworth. 52 brigades were represented, numbering a total of 1000 firemen. Hose and reel practice formed the exercise for to-day, and some smart work was performed. The Chiltern brigade went through the hose practice in sixty-one seconds, and won the first prize. There was a procession half a mile long this morning, and a torchlight procession tonight.

INFORMATION is to hand by Australia that His Excellency the Governor of New South Wales (Lord Augustus Loftus) will be accompanied to Sydney by his two sons. The eldest (Mr Henry Loftus) will act as the Private Secretary of his father. Lord Loftus is related to his predecessor, Sir Hercules Robinson, formerly Governor of Hongkong.

Hodge & Co.'s Weekly Shipping Report, Pagoda Anchorage, 28th June, 1879.—

ARRIVED During the Week.—June 7, Namo, from Hongkong; 22, Stentor, from Shanghai; 22, E. C. Match, from *Islandia*; 24, Has An, from Shanghai; 25, Salamis, from Shanghai; 26, Wm. Manson, from Sydney; 26, Douglas, from Hongkong; 27, Swatow, from Shanghai; 28, Europe, from Shanghai.

DEPARTURES During the Week.—June 21, Europe, for Shanghai; 22, Nisin, for Europe; 22, Willie, for Tientsin; 22, Killarney, for Sydney; 24, Herkules, for Tientsin; 24, Namo, for Hongkong; 25, Stentor, for London; 25, Glenallock, for London.

Shipping in Port.—Ben Gloc, Monarch, Syria, Teviot, Merionethshire, Undaunted, Black Prince, E. C. Match, Has An, Salamis, Wm. Manson, Douglas, Swatow, Europe.

DUNEDIN contemplates the adoption of a fresh mode of disposing of the city's sewage. The following letter was read at the last meeting of the City Council, from Mr. W. G. Jenkins, in reply to inquiries on the subject:—"The following extract of a letter just received from Messrs. W. Simons and Co., engineers, Benfrew, I take the privilege of placing before the Council, believing it may tend to throw some light on the vexed question of the city refuse and sewage (including night-soil).—We have contracted with the Corporation of Liverpool for a crew sewage steamer (the first of a fleet) to take the city sewage thirty miles out to sea." This plan being the outcome of the experience of such a large city as Liverpool, it is worthy of note by other city corporations. As I would remark that in order to prevent the pollution of the harbour and the silting up of the same; also effectually disposing of the debris and sewage of the city—that if the plan of connecting the present sewers of the city with two receiving basins supplied with outer gates was adopted, a dredge steamer could enter at high water and in two hours could fill herself with several hundred tons, and steam out to sea as projected at Liverpool, the gates being immediately shut on the exit of the steamer. For the means of forming a correct judgment on the matter, I herewith forward the accompanying photos, and reliable printed matter on the subject, with the experience of the Greenock Harbour Engineer."

THE following three paras of more than general interest are from the *World* to hand to-day:—

Mr E. J. Reed has just returned to the House of Commons, after a seven months' journey round the world. Four months of this time were spent in Japan, and Mr Reed is putting into book-form his experiences of the country. Few men have had a better opportunity of seeing the kingdom of the Mikado than Mr Reed. His knowledge of the Japanese language is, of course, elementary; but he got on very well with the Mikado, whom he strongly impressed with the business-like qualities and general knowledges of an average Englishman. As for the Japanese, their respect for the member for Pembroke was unbounded. In Yedo he is popularly believed to be at least an ex-Lord Mayor.

I was at a female-suffrage meeting the other day, and heard, I am bound to say, a great deal of good sense and no shrieking. In the front row sat the Chinese Embassy, listening with a polite and patient attention which excited my wonder, until I learnt that the question of female representation is being agitated, if not in China, in Japan. A Japanese widow and householder has refused, in a letter full of excellent sense, to pay taxes on the ground that she has no vote. Truly we in the West have no monopoly of advanced and troublesome people.

Travellers will be glad to learn that an arrangement has finally been effected with the French and Italian companies for a service of through sleeping-cars from Calais to Brindisi, which will come into operation on the 30th of this month; and thereafter, on every Friday-night, a sleeping-car will leave Calais and go through to Brindisi on the Indian mail-days, enabling passengers to remain one day longer in England than they have hitherto been able to do.

RETURN of Visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum for the week ending July 6th 1879:—

|                    | European. | Chinese |
|--------------------|-----------|---------|
| Monday, June 30th, | 67        | 378     |
| Tuesday, July 1st, | 66        | 308     |
| Wednesday, 2nd,    | 71        | 333     |
| Thursday, 3rd,     | 71        | 293     |
| Friday, 4th,       | 70        | 165     |
| Saturday, 5th,     | 50        | 255     |
| Sunday, 6th,       | 20        |         |
| Totals             | 415       | 1,732   |
| Grand total,       | 2147.     |         |

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

THE PRAYA WALL AND ITS COMPOSITION.

To the Editor of the "CHINA MAIL."

Hongkong, July 8.

SIR,—You will perhaps "allow me to remark" that your correspondent *Pips*, in his "Town Talk" of last evening, makes some very strong, rash and ignorant assertions respecting the mode in which the concrete backing (or "whaling" as he incorrectly calls it) is being constructed by the Surveyor General of this Colony for the Praya Wall. *Pips* appears to be one of those numerous individuals who illustrate the truth of the well-known old saying—"that a little knowledge is a dangerous thing." He has evidently picked up from some *Critical or Scientific Primer* a collection of engineering terms, of the true meaning of which he has the crudest perception. He has never made concrete before or had experience in its use, or he would not have written the ridiculous nonsense you inserted in your last night's issue. He in his letter proceeds to tell the public how, in his opinion, concrete should be made, and not being satisfied with that, he goes further, and asserts that the concrete now being used on the Praya Wall will eventually "crumble away to dust like an ant-hill." He suggests a practical test, and then "challenges the best engineer in Hongkong to refute what he there sets forth." I therefore openly accept the challenge thus thrown down by the ignorant *Pips*, and assert that the concrete as I have seen it made for the backing of the Praya Wall will not "crumble to dust like an ant-hill,"—will go on hardening for years and years, and will also stand the "practical test" suggested by *Pips*. I further assert that concrete prepared and made as described by *Pips* in "Town Talk" will be very far from being equal in quality to that now being used on the Praya, besides being five times as costly. In accepting the challenge of the presumptuous *Pips* I forward you \$50, to be backed by a similar amount from *Pips*, or any greater or less amount he may think fit to advance. The sum of money, whatever it may be, to be deposited in the hands of some unofficial member of the Council, or some other well known and respected resident, and I do hereby challenge *Pips* to this "practical test" mentioned in his letter of yesterday. His concrete (as he calls it) to be made

exactly as described by him, mine to be made as I saw it made on the *Praya* yesterday, or rather in accordance with the Government specification for the work. The samples to be thoroughly proved and tested by the gentleman in whose hands the money is deposited, who shall be at liberty to test the samples in any way he may think best, or to call in professional assistance should he desire to do so. *Pips* and myself however being at liberty to make "suggestions" in writing to the referee before the trial takes place respecting the proposed test. The referee's decision to be final and binding and the \$50 deposited by the party to whose views the referee's decision shall be adverse, shall be devoted by the referee to charitable purposes in Hongkong.

I think, Sir, this would settle this question, of so much interest to the residents on the *Praya*, who are in a state of uneasiness and alarm in consequence of the groundless assertions of "*Pips*." As you have inserted "*Pips*" letter and challenge, I venture to hope you will extend a similar courtesy to myself.

"Clever Amateurs" to which class "*Pips*, C.E., appears anxious to be considered to belong, should not be permitted to make rash and ignorant charges and assertions in public papers against well-qualified and tried Government officials, who by their official positions are debarred from the right of reply.

If "*Pips*" is fond of throwing dirt about in the dark, let him throw it at himself, or into his own "sootey." He throws down a challenge, however, and I gladly take it up; let him prove his assertions to be true, or for ever hold his peace, and bury himself in his own "*caucined clay*."

I remain, Sir,

important movements have taken place on the side of the British, and only a few raids and reconnaissances in the enemy's country have been made. The dead bodies of those killed on the British side at Isandlu have been buried without any opposition from the Zulus.

Washington, June 12.—The Senate has rejected the bill voted by the House of Representatives enacting that the coinage of silver should be at a minimum of two million dollars monthly.

London, June 13.—After a long debate, the House of Commons last night read the second time the bill for sanctioning a loan of five millions to the Indian Government. Mr Goschen said he had authority to state that Germany did not contemplate selling any more silver. He advised the ministry to await the natural development of the matter before making any radical changes in the Indian currency. The Under-Secretary for India concurred in these remarks.

Simla, June 12.—The Punjab contingent marches to Jhelum, where the troops take the railway to their respective States; Col. Watson's command ceases at Jhelum and he reverts to political duty.

Simla, June 13.—A circular to all the local Governments has been issued this day, and states that important changes in the financial position having occurred since the publication of the budget statement, it suggests methods for the retrenchment of expenditure. An enquiry with the object of reducing the military charges was going on in India and England, the policy of rigid economy being followed into every branch of the public service.

Madras, June 17.—The Prince of Arcot died yesterday.

London, June 16.—Orchard Bank Shares £20. Chartered Bank Shares £20 10s. Chartered Mercantile Bank do £20 10s. Hongkong and Shanghai Bank do £27.

London, June 14.—The Washington Agricultural Bureau's monthly report states that the average of the 10 cotton states is 98 per cent. The acreage has increased 2 per cent. The crop is partly a fortnight late. The average of wheat crop is 90 per cent. The acreage has increased 4 per cent.

London, June 18.—The House of Commons agreed without a division to a motion reducing the maximum number of lashes that can be given in the army to 25.

Aden, June 18.—The *Travancore*, with the mails of the 6th inst., left for Bombay at 2 this afternoon.

Simla, June 18.—From Mandalay it is reported that on the 15th June the Foreign Minister, the Minister of the Interior, and several high officials, paid a visit of condolence to the Residency. Mr Shaw was buried on the 16th at ten o'clock. The funeral was attended by the Mandalay and Bhamo guards in uniform, a large number of Europeans and natives following. An imposing procession and ceremony were arranged by the Burmese Government, and sympathy and courtesy were shown throughout.

London, June 19.—A treaty has been concluded between England and Portugal creating a customs union with the Portuguese Colonies in India, and abrogating all Custom houses, applying the Indian tariff throughout the union, and establishing common excise duties on spirits and salt.

London, June 19.—Sir Stafford Northcote, at a Conservative meeting held yesterday, made a statement that the Government anticipated that the Zulu campaign would close before Parliament is prorogued, when they (the Government) will have every confidence in meeting the country.

Bombay, June 19.—A special telegram to the *Times of India*, from London says that the debate in the House of Commons on the 17th inst. was commenced by Sir William Harcourt, who presented a formidable indictment against Lord Lytton and the Secretary of State for India on account of their overruling and disregarding the Council of India and the Governor-General's Council on the subject of the cotton import duties. Sir William Harcourt also condemned the conduct of the Government and the Viceroy regarding the Afghan war, and likewise regarding the vernacular press. He charged them with abuse of power, and suggested that the savings which the Government had promised in Indian expenditure should be begun by abolishing both the French mail, due 9th prox., left Suez on the 27th inst., two days in advance of its due date. There are no later Japan advices, via San Francisco. The next inward (P. and O.) mail was despatched from Brindisi on the 28th inst., and will reach London to-morrow, two days early. The *Messageries Maritimes* steamer *Pelio*, with the French mail, due 9th prox., left Suez on the 27th inst., four days early. The P. and O. Company's steamer *Hydaspes*, with the heavy portion of the last inward P. and O. mail, arrived at Southampton on the 25th inst.

The Select Committee upon Parliamentary Reporting, in their final report to the House, have decided that the objections to an official report of the debates outweigh any advantage which would be derived from it.

A more expeditious publication of Hansard's debates is recommended, and an enlargement of the gallery for the qualified admission of the provincial press is suggested.

Lord Beaconsfield visited the House of Commons on the 26th inst. He occupied a seat in the gallery reserved for Peers, and remained while the somewhat animated debate in reference to the Zulu war lasted.

This is the first time Lord Beaconsfield has entered the House of Commons since he was raised to the peerage.

At the Royal Horticultural Society's Show a gold medal was awarded to Messrs. Veitch, of Chelsea, for examples of a new grafting practised in Japan, by which four varieties of various shades of green and brown are budded on one stock. The plants shown have just been sent to England by the firm's collector in Japan. The Princess of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, and the Duke of Teck visited the show.

The latest news of the Swedish expedition to Eastern Siberia under Professor Nordenskjöld, transmitted to St. Petersburg through the Governor of Yakutsk, is to the effect that the Professor and his comrades were all well on board the steamer *Vega* in Behring Straits, and that he hoped to begin the return voyage to Europe by way of the Suez Canal in May.

The reports from Italy and France in regard to the silk crops have grown daily worse, and consequently the speculation in all Asiatic qualities has taken the same exaggerated form as in 1876, and will probably end as disastrously.

The meeting of the Suez Canal Company was held on the 23rd inst., when a dividend of 18.93 francs per share was declared. At the meeting of the *Messageries Maritimes* in Paris on the 29th the dividend was confirmed at 55 francs per share for the past year.

The P. & O. str. *Nepau* was despatched from Southampton yesterday with the heavy portion of next outward mail. She has on board specie to the value of £127,120, including £27,520 in Mexican dollars for Shanghai, and £5,000 in the same coin for Penang.

The *Shamrock*, the finest and largest transport ever built in France, is to make her trial trip at Cherbourg next week. She is destined for the Cochinchina service, and has unusual hospital accommodation on board. The *Shamrock* can easily carry 1,100 men, and in time of war as many as 2,000.

Commander W. M. Lang, R.N., who recently returned home with H.M.S. *Nassau*, will proceed to China in command of the four gunboats now building for the Chinese Government sufficient. The *Times* this morning characterises the debate as a most memorable one, and trusts the present inquiries into the affairs of India by the Home Government will prove only the successful beginning to much-needed reforms.

Singapore, June 17.—A Government resolution has been issued by which the business of the Financial, Home and Revenue Departments will be re-distributed among two Secretaries, to be called one the Department of Finance and Commerce, the other the Department of

Home Revenue and Agricultural Department. All marine affairs will be under the marine branch of the Military Department. Immediate saving half a lakh annually, with forty thousand rupees more hereafter.

Simla, June 20.—The Amir of Afghanistan has issued a proclamation, of which the following is a translation:

"Whereas perpetual friendship and peace is established between the British Government and the Government of Afghanistan, all disputes and differences between those two Governments are entirely removed. It is hereby publicly proclaimed that a general amnesty is granted to those subjects of the Afghan Government who have held intercourse with the British forces during the war. The Afghan Government declare in writing that all its subjects shall be exempt from punishment or molestation, overt or covert, on account of such intercourse."

Bombay, June 21.—The London correspondent of the *Times of India* telegraphs that he has on good authority that Lord Beaconsfield has recommended the Queen to confer an Earldom on Lord Lytton for bringing the Afghan war to a successful termination.

(London and China Express, May 30.)

## Intimations.

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